

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00882 261058Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 OMB-01 /081 W
-----056873 261320Z /64

R 260914Z APR 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6074
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0882

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, IZ, XF, PLO
SUBJECT: VISIT OF GAZAN DELEGATION

1. DELEGATION OF NOTABLES FROM OCCUPIED GAZA STRIP
ARRIVED BAGHDAD APRIL 22. DELEGATION LEADER IS HASHIM
ATA AL-SHAWA, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
PALESTINE BANK. OTHER MEMBERS INCLUDE A LAWYER, A
JOURNALIST, A JUDGE, AN EDUCATOR AND A CITRUS PRODUCER.
THE DELEGATION WAS RECEIVED BY BAATH PARTY NATIONAL COMMAND
ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL MUNIF AL-RAZZAZ WHO PLEDGED
THAT PARTY WOULD "EXTEND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE TO ARAB-
CITIZENS WITHIN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES."

2. ARRIVAL OF DELEGATION WAS FRONT-PAGE NEWS IN BAGHDAD
DAILIES. PARTY NEWSPAPER AL-THAWRA ALSO FEATURED AN
INTERVIEW WITH DELEGATION MEMBERS WHICH STRESSED
PROBLEMS THAT CITRUS GROWERS OF GAZA WERE FACING
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UNDER ISRAELI OCCUPATION.

3. JORDANIAN EMBOFF CONFIRMED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD
INTERCEDED WITH IRAQIS IN EFFORT TO FACILITATE TRANSIT
THROUGH IRAQ TO IRAN OF CITRUS FRUIT FROM GAZA STRIP. HE
NOTED THAT DESPITE FACT THAT IRAQ ITSELF HAS SERIOUS
SEASONAL SHORTAGES OF CITRUS FRUIT, IRAQIS WERE

RELUCTANT TO CONSIDER ANY PROPOSITION WHICH WOULD AID ECONOMIES OF OCCUPIED AREAS. IT IS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT JORDANIAN REPRESENTATIONS PAVED WAY FOR VISIT OF GAZA DELEGATION.

4. COMMENT: TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THIS IS FIRST TIME THAT IRAQI AUTHORITIES HAVE RECEIVED PERSONALITIES FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. IT SUGGESTS THAT REGIME MAY BE BROADENING ITS SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS, HERETOFORE CONCENTRATED ON REJECTION FRONT.
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Message Attributes

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